FM channels and Sky Radio

2706. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up FM Channels through Insat 2-B and to introduce Sky Radio; if so, by when the Scheme will come into operation; and

(b) what are the countries to be coered by this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) The scheme which is meant for listeners in India only is expected to become operational from 1st April, 1994.

Telecasting Tamil programmes from Madras doordarshan kendra

2707. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that viewers in Tamil Nadu are able to receive T.V. Programmes only in two channels;

(b) for how many hours Doordarshan telecasts programmes in these two channels in a day;

(c) for how many hours Doordarshan Kendra at Madras telecasts its own programmes in these two channels in a day;

(d) whether there is any proposal to increase the time for telecasting local programmes in Tamil; and

(e) whether a Committee of renowned artists will be appointed to select Tamil programmes for telecasting from Madras Doordarshan Kendra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. Viewers in the state can receive all the six channels of Doordarshan, some off the air and some through an appropriate dish antenna.

(b) The total programming on these six channels per day is in excess of seventy one hours.

(c) Approximately seven hours on Monday to Saturday and eight hours on Sundays.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) No, Sir.

Export of Indian films, documentaries and TV serials

2708. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any demand for Indian feature films documentaries and TV Serials in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the number of films, serials, and documentaries exported during 1990-91, 1992-93 and in 1993-94 as on date; and

(c) the foreign exchange earned thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The available information in this regard is given in the Statement. (*See* below)